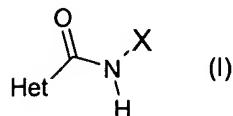
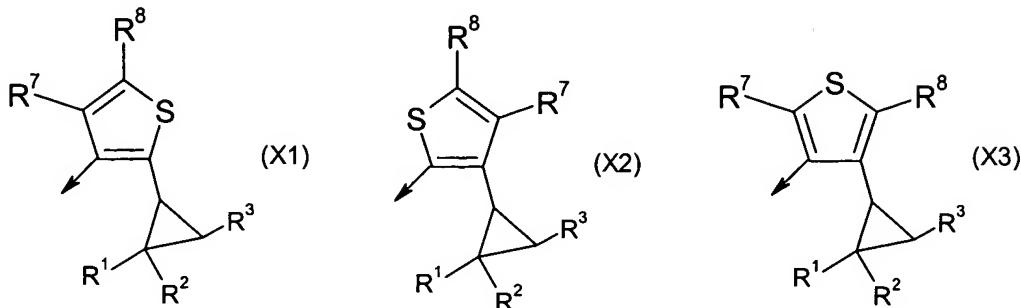


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Original): A compound of formula (I):



where X is (X1), (X2) or (X3);



Het is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one to three heteroatoms, each independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen and sulphur, provided that the ring is not 1,2,3-triazole, the ring being substituted by groups R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶; R¹ and R² are each, independently, hydrogen, halo or methyl; R³ is optionally substituted C₂₋₁₂ alkyl, optionally substituted C₂₋₁₂ alkenyl, optionally substituted C₂₋₁₂ alkynyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₁₂ cycloalkyl, optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl; R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are each, independently, selected from hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy(C₁₋₄)alkylene and C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy(C₁₋₄)alkylene, provided that at least one of R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ is not hydrogen; and R⁷ and R⁸ are each, independently, hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl or C₁₋₄ haloalkyl.

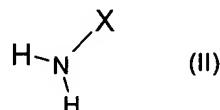
Claim 2. (Original): A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, where Het is pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thienyl, furyl, isothiazolyl or isoxazolyl.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, ~~or 2~~ where R¹ and R² are, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ where R³ is C₂₋₆ alkyl, optionally substituted C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl or furyl.

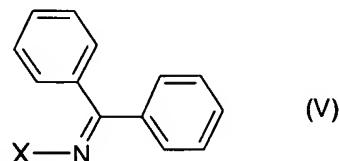
Claim 5. (Currently Amended): A compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~ where R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are, independently, selected from hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl and C₁₋₄ alkoxy(C₁₋₄)alkylene, provided that at least one of R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ is not hydrogen.

Claim 6. (Original): A compound formula (II):



where X and R³ are as defined in claim 1; and R¹, R², R⁷ and R⁸ are each hydrogen.

Claim 7. (Original): A process for preparing a compound of formula (II) as claimed in claim 6 from a compound of formula (V):



where X, R¹, R², R³, R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined in claim 6, comprising either a transamination reaction of a compound of formula (V) with hydroxylamine hydrochloride in the presence of a base or a hydrolysis reaction of a compound of formula (V) with an acid.

Claim 8. (Original): A process for preparing a compound of formula (V) as defined in claim 7 from a compound of formula (IV):



where X, R¹, R², R³, R⁷ and R⁸ are as defined in claim 6, comprising tris-dibenzylidenacetondipalladium-catalysed reaction of a compound of formula (IV) with benzophenonimine in the presence of a strong base and a ligand in a solvent at a temperature between 30°C and reflux temperature.

Claim 9. (Original): A composition for controlling microorganisms and preventing attack and infestation of plants therewith, wherein the active ingredient is a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 together with a suitable carrier.

Claim 10. (Original): A method of controlling or preventing infestation of cultivated plants by phytopathogenic microorganisms by application of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 to plants, to parts thereof or the locus thereof.